

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and for indicating that claims 2-8 and 10 contain allowable subject matter.

Office Action Summary

Part 1 of the Office Action Summary (under the "Status" heading) appears to be incomplete. For the record, Applicant respectfully notes that part 1 should read "Responsive to communication(s) filed on June 1, 2009."

Disposition of the claims

Claims 1-12 were pending in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled by way of this reply. Therefore, claims 1 and 3-12 are now pending in this application. Claims 1 and 12 are independent. The remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 1.

Claim Amendments

By way of this reply, claims 1 and 12 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claim 2. Further, claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1 instead of canceled claim 2. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 2-8 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, *i.e.*, independent claim 1, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By way of this reply, claim 2 has been canceled, and independent claims 1 and 12 have been amended to incorporate all of the

limitations of canceled claim 2. Thus, independent claims 1 and 12, as amended, are in condition for allowance. At least by virtue of their dependence from amended independent claim 1, claims 3-8 and 10 are also allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)


Claims 1, 9, 11, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,833,470 ("Harrison"). As explained above, independent claims 1 and 12 have been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 2, which was indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Thus, independent claims 1 and 12, as amended, are patentable over Harrison, and are in condition for allowance. At least by virtue of their dependence from independent claim 1, claims 9 and 11 are also patentable over Harrison, and are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 04536/036001).

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Respectfully submitted,

By  #45,079
Jonathan P. Osha THOMAS SCHWARTZ
Registration No.: 33,986
OSHA · LIANG LLP
909 Fannin Street, Suite 3500
Houston, Texas 77010
(713) 228-8600
(713) 228-8778 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant